

# Los Angeles Times

202 West First Street,  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Mr. Josh Rubenstein  
Public Information Director  
Los Angeles Police Department  
Via email: [Josh.Rubenstein@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:Josh.Rubenstein@lapd.lacity.org)

Aug. 15, 2017

## Re: Request for clearance data in homicide cases

Dear Josh Rubenstein,

Pursuant to the California Public Records Act, Section 6250 et seq. of the Government Code and the California state Constitution, as amended by Proposition 59, and section 13300 of the California Penal Code, I am asking for the status and clearance information for homicides handled by the LAPD from 2007 to present.

In the past, your office has provided electronic records in Excel format for homicides from 2010 to 2012 and for crimes also classified as justifiable homicides and manslaughter.

I am asking for an updated version of those records that would include information on old and new cases and in cases in which a person was arrested.

Specifically we are requesting the following from 2007 to the present:

- Unique identifier (DR)
- Crime (homicide, manslaughter and justifiable homicide)
- Homicide date and time
- Homicide location
- Victim age
- Victim name
- Victim sex
- Victim race/ethnicity
- Status of the investigation (including the categories investigation continues, adult arrest, juvenile arrest and any other categories that LAPD maintains)
- Name of person arrested
- DOB of arrestee
- Gender of arrestee
- Race/ethnicity of arrestee

In the case of juvenile arrests, we request all information except the juvenile's name. If this data comes from different computer systems, we do not need it combined into a single dataset. If it is more convenient for the LAPD to output this in multiple datasets, please include the DR number with each table.

I am making this request as a journalist conducting research into homicides in Los Angeles County. I believe that the release of this information would help enhance the public's understanding of what happens in the city and county's criminal justice system in cases that involve the ultimate crime.

This request reasonably describes identifiable information that the California Public Records Act requires be made public. I believe that there exists no express provision of law exempting such information from disclosure. Accordingly, I ask that you make the records promptly available.

In case there are problems with my request, the Public Records Act requires government agencies to assist members of the public to identify records and information responsive to the request, describe the information technology in which the records exist and to provide suggestions for overcoming any practical basis for denying access to the records or information sought.

To the extent that a portion of the information I have requested is exempt by express provisions of law, the public records act additionally requires segregation and deletion of that material in order that the remainder of the information may be provided in satisfaction of my request.

If you determine that an express provision of law exists to exempt from disclosure all or a portion of the material I have requested, the Public Records Act requires a determination and notification to me of the reasons no later than 10 days from your receipt of this request. The act prohibits the use of the 10-day period, or any provision of the act, "to delay access for purposes of inspecting public records."

Please notify me in advance of any estimate of costs to produce the records in fulfillment of this request. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at [REDACTED]. My email address is [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

Nicole Santa Cruz  
Times Staff Writer